

NEWS

The Tribal Newsletter
is published free monthly.

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LETTER

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



<http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/TRIBAL.NSF/Newsletter/Issues>

Vol. 16, No.10 — October 2007

<> CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS <>

October

- 3-5 EPA Western Brownfields Workshop, Portland, OR**
For information: Laura Sneeringer at 303-861-1637 or to register: wbwregistration@sra.com
- 15-19 The 13th Annual Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management/EPA IGAP Training, Anchorage AK**
For more information log onto ANTHC's website at <http://www.anthc.org>
or contact the DEHE Coordinator at (800) 560-8637 ext. 4505 or 729-4505.
- 17-18 Facilitating Work Groups and Public Meetings Workshop, Anchorage, AK**
Info: Jane Oakley at 907-786-6374 or anjeo@uaa.alaska.edu

November

- 5-8 HazMat Explo, Las Vegas, NV**
For information: Angie Proboszcz at 415/972-3077 or proboszcz.angie@epa.gov
- 5-9 Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association's 7 Generations Workshop, Kodiak, AK**
Info: Klaudia Klaudi at 907-222-4216 or klaudiak@apiai.org
For more information: <http://www.7generations.us/>
- 6-8 Improve and Protect Air Quality in Alaska workshop, Anchorage, AK**
For application and related information, go to:
<http://projects.pechan.com/epa/tribalWorkshops/index.cfm>
Application deadline is **October 19, 2007**
- 14-15 Native and Western Perspectives on Community Decision Making, Anchorage, AK**
Info: Jane Oakley at 907-786-6374 or anjeo@uaa.alaska.edu
- 27-29 The 2007 STORET/WQX Conference, Austin, TX**
For information or to register, go to: <http://www.epa.gov/storet/2007conf.html>
The deadline to register is **November 5, 2007**.

April 2008

- 21-24 EPA Region Tribal Leaders Summit, Little Creek Resort and Casino, Kamilche, WA**

June 2008

- National Tribal Conference for Environmental Management 2008, Billings, MT**
For information: Karen Rudek at 202-564-0472

Fish and Shellfish Consumption Rate Framework

EPA Region 10 is pleased to announce that it has completed its Framework for Selecting and Using Tribal Fish and Shellfish Consumption Rates for Risk-Based Decision Making at CERCLA and RCRA Cleanup Sites in Puget Sound and the Strait of Georgia north to the Border with Canada ("Framework"). (Continued on Page 2)

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Fish and Shellfish Consumption Rate Framework

This document presents a conceptual Framework for selecting and using Tribal fish and shellfish consumption rates to estimate site-related risks at EPA hazardous waste cleanup sites in Puget Sound and the portion of the Strait of Georgia that is within the United States. It is specifically intended for use at sites that are addressed through the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

The Framework's function is to assist EPA Region 10 staff in managing RCRA and CERCLA cleanups in consideration of information that reflects Tribal exposures and concerns, but is not intended to replace government-to-government consultation. EPA will consult with Tribes on site-specific exposure assumptions and cleanup decisions at each Superfund and RCRA site within a Tribal fishing area or on Tribal land.

One of the many pieces of information needed to estimate potential human health risks due to chemical contamination at cleanup sites is exposure to site-related contamination from eating fish and shellfish. Consumption of locally harvested fish and shellfish by American Indians is likely to be higher than it is for the general U.S. population. Consumption rates may be drawn from various sources. In this document, highest preference is given to consumption rates derived from well-designed consumption surveys of Puget Sound Tribes, and lowest preference to default values from nationwide food intake studies.

EPA has completed its on the Framework for the time being. However, it is being referred to as a "working document," representing EPA's intention that it may be revised periodically. The Framework may be viewed at: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/cleanup.nsf/sites/Cleanup>

Track Water Supply by Satellites

For the last three years, the National Aeronautics and Space Agency (NASA) has been using satellites to study parts of the world that are experiencing water shortages. The Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE) consists of a pair of satellites, orbiting 130 miles apart and measuring everything from rivers to aquifers to water contained in snow.

Initial data from the GRACE mission show that, over the past three years, the Congo River level is losing approximately 21.6 mm of water per year, while the Zamebezi and Nile Rivers are losing 16.3 mm and 9.3mm, respectively. NASA reports that the drop in the Congo's water level represents two years worth of drinking water for people who depend on this water source.

In the U.S., the satellites have documented ground-water depletion in California's Central Valley.

The site is available at:
<http://www.csr.utexas.edu/grace>

Water Quality Information

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service maintains a website (<http://www.nal.usda.gov/wqic>) with information about water and agriculture. The Water Quality Information Center site includes searchable databases, bibliographies, discussions lists, and news.

From aquatic and wetland plants to water conservation, information is available on numerous water-related topics. The site features a section titled "Funding" that provides a comprehensive list of federal money available for water projects. This section may be accessed at:
<http://www.nal.usda.gov/wqic/funding.shtml>

U.S. Geological Survey

The U.S. Geological Survey--
<http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa> --has a wealth of information about water issues. The National Water Quality Assessment Program monitors various rivers and streams around the country, including pollutant levels for pesticides, nutrients, and volatile organic compounds.

USDA's Tribal Transit Assistance Program

The Tribal Transit Technical Assistance program, funded by the USDA Rural Business and Cooperative Service assists tribal communities in promoting economic growth and development by improving transportation services. The program provides planning assistance for facilities development, transit service improvements and expansion, new system start-up, policy and procedure development, marketing, transportation coordination, training and public transit problem solving activities. Deadlines are on a rolling basis. For more information visit:

<http://web1.ctaa.org/webmodules/webarticles/anmviewer.asp?a=259>

New Guidance on Watershed Permitting

EPA has published a new technical guidance that will help integrate National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits into watershed management plans. "Watershed-Based NPDES Permitting Technical Guidance" is a follow up to the 2003 implementation guidance and leads interested parties through the analysis of watershed data and developing a framework for implementing an NPDES program.

The guidance supports approaches to permitting that may help target the watershed's most pressing environmental needs. The approaches will help achieve water quality-based effluent limitations based on water quality standards while providing opportunities for cost reductions and improved efficiencies such as water quality trading. The guidance includes case studies describing how watershed approaches involving NPDES permitting have been implemented across the country.

EPA is accepting comments on the guidance on a continuing basis. For an electronic copy of the guidance visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/npdes/watersheds>

For additional information: Pat Bradley, 202/564-0729 or bradley.patrick@epa.gov

Small System Guidance

The EPA has developed guides for small systems about the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment (LT2) and the Stage 2 Disinfectants Byproducts Rule (DBPR).

Complying with the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule: Small Entity Compliance Guide is intended for small public water systems and contains a general introduction and background for the LT2 rule, describes the specific requirements of the rule, and provides information on how to comply with those requirements. Download the guide from the EPA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water website at: http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/disinfection/lt2/pdfs/guide_lt2_stepguide_smallentitycomplianceguide.pdf

Complying with the Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule: Small Entity Compliance Guide contains a general introduction and background for the Stage 2 DBPR, describes the requirements of the rule that apply to systems serving fewer than 10,000 people, and provides step-by-step guidance on how small systems can comply with Stage 2 requirements. Examples of actions that systems might take to comply with rule are given throughout the guide. Download the guide at: http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/disinfection/stage2/pdfs/guide_st2_stepguide_smallentitycomplianceguide.pdf

Both manuals are also available from EPA's Water Resource Center by writing to 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington DC 20460, calling 202-566-1729, or e-mailing center.water-resource@epa.gov

Water Footprint

The water footprint of an individual business, or nation, is defined as the total volume of freshwater that is used to produce goods and services consumed by the individual, business, or nation. This site-- <http://www.waterfootprint.org> --provides information for national water footprints and a calculator for learning how much water an individual uses.

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S**Sustainability**

The EPA, along with its partners, has developed resources and programs to help water professionals and the water industry improve water efficiency efforts.

EPA's Sustainable Infrastructure Initiative-- <http://www.epa.gov/waterinfrastructure> --is a broad effort that involves all aspects of water conservation, from watershed planning and effective utility management to encouraging pricing structures that fully recover utility costs and encourage efficiency. The goal is to move infrastructure management toward more sustainable practices by encouraging innovation, facilitating partnerships, and promoting research and development.

Watersense is a voluntary partnership program that helps consumers identify water-efficient products and programs. The mission of this program is to protect the future of our nation's water supply by promoting and enhancing the market for water efficient products and services.

Both programs include resources and tips for using water more efficiently, with the Sustainable Infrastructure Initiative focusing on the utility or broader community and WaterSense focusing on consumers and businesses.

With the EPA's help, WaterSense utility partners can encourage their customers to use water-efficient products, choose water-efficient services, and be aware of how they use their water and which will help them save water, reducing overall demand.

The four pillars of better water management include:

- Better management of water and wastewater utilities can encompass practices like asset management and environmental management systems. Consolidation and public-private partnerships could also offer utilities significant savings.
- Rates that reflect the full-cost pricing of service and rate restructuring can help utilities capture the actual costs of operating water systems, raise revenues, and also help to conserve water.

- Efficient water use is critical, particularly in those parts of the country that are undergoing water shortages. We need to create market incentives to encourage more efficient use of water and to protect our sources of water.
- Watershed approaches look more broadly at water resources in a coordinated way, which is challenging because we have not traditionally thought of infrastructure management within the context of water quality protection.

For more information visit the page at <http://www.epa.gov/watersense> or call 866-WTR-SENS.

Izaak Walton League

For more than 30 years, the Izaak Walton League has been involved in watersheds through their Save Our Streams Program. The part of their site at <http://www.iwla.org> has different tools for effective watershed improvement projects, including a stream monitoring and restoration database.

Calculate Individual Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Air Pollution

With just a few clicks of the mouse and a ZIP code, consumers can see how their individual energy use is affecting the earth. EPA's Power Profiler calculates how much air pollution results from individual electricity use, the fuels used to produce that electricity and how to reduce the impact.

EPA has updated the web-based Power Profiler with recently released data on emissions and fuels. In addition to learning the emissions from their individual electricity use, users can see how they compare with national averages.

With information from the calculator on their monthly electricity use, consumers can assess their annual emissions. The site also guides users to other web-based information showing how to reduce emissions from one's home or business through greater energy efficiency and use of renewable energy.

Power Profiler uses information from EPA's Emissions & Generation Resource Integrated Database (eGRID), a comprehensive source of data on the environmental characteristics of nearly all electric power generated in the United States.

For more information about the Power Profiler visit <http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/powerprofiler>



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Alaska Operations Office

ALASKA NEWS

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The 13th Annual Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management (ATCEM)

The 13th Annual Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management will be held October 15 - 17 in Anchorage, Alaska at the Anchorage Marriott Downtown. with EPA Indian General Assistance Program (IGAP) Training October 18 - 19, 2007.

The theme for this year's conference is "Healthy Environment, Healthy People".

Topic Tracks for the ATCEM Conference Sessions include:

- Solid Waste Management
- Education & Outreach: How to get Community Involvement
- Global Warming/Climate Change
- Community Emergency Planning

The IGAP Training will focus on "Grants Management". The format of this years training will comprehensively cover the lifecycle of an IGAP grant. Topics for this years training sessions include:

- Funding Announcement/Program Planning – Allowable Activities
- Workplan/Budget
- Forms: Workplan/Budget/Application
- Reporting/Advance Post-Award Monitoring
- Fiscal Management: Payments, Audits
- Closeouts/Enforcement

Note: Those that attended last years IGAP Training received a GAP Training Manual and should bring it to this year's conference. Updates will be provided.

To register for The 13th Annual Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management, log onto ANTHC's website at www.anthc.org or contact the DEHE Coordinator at 800-560-8637 ext. 4505 or 729-4505.

Planning to attend only the EPA IGAP Training on Thursday and Friday and not the entire conference? If so, please e-mail Robb Woodman, Tribal Liaison at woodman.robert@epa.gov with the names of the participants that plan to attend and the Tribe/Consortia/Organization they represent.

2007 STORET/WQX Conference

The 2007 STORET/WQX Conference is to be held in Austin, Texas on November 27-29. The EPA's STORET Team will host the conference.

STORET (short for STORage and RETrieval) is a repository for water quality, biological, and physical data and is used by state environmental agencies, EPA and other federal agencies, universities, private citizens, and many others. You can visit their web site at <http://www.epa.gov/storet> for additional information.

This conference will be an opportunity for water quality data managers, program experts, and information technology (IT) specialists to meet together and share information about STORET and the new Water Quality Exchange (WQX) framework. Water quality data management and program specialists of all kinds are invited to attend, including representatives from States, Tribes, Interstate Commissions, watershed organizations, academia, and organizations that are concerned with beach monitoring and health. For more information, visit the conference website at <http://www.epa.gov/storet/2007conf.html>

TRAINING

7-Generations Training Opportunities

Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, Inc. is proud to offer the 7-Generations course through funding from the EPA. This training is a way to build community strength through identifying and solving environmental problems and is a powerful process that can lead to a healthier and more sustainable community.

Upcoming training will be held in Kodiak, Alaska on November 5 - 9, 2007. If you are interested in attending, please contact Klaudia Klaudi at 907-222-4216 or klaudiak@api.ai.org

If you would like more information about the program or upcoming classes, please take a look at the "7 Generations Home Page" at <http://www.7generations.us> under "About US" and "Workshops".

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Alaska Collaborative Leadership Training - Facilitating Work Groups and Public Meetings, October 17-18, 2007

During this workshop, participants participate in a variety of exercises to learn a step-by-step process for facilitating work groups and public meetings. They learn how to manage conflict and keep the meeting focused. Working in small groups, they plan, conduct, and critique a simulated meeting on an Alaska issue.

All workshops are conducted for two days in Anchorage and are held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at UAA, Anchorage, Alaska. If you have questions, please call Jane Oakley, Resource Solutions Training Coordinator, at 907-786-6374, or email her at anjeo@uaa.alaska.edu. Additional information and registration forms are on our website at: <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/resourcesolutions> Please fax completed registrations to 907-786-1700.

Native and Western Perspectives on Community Decision Making Workshop - November 14 -15, 2007

This workshop provides participants with an awareness of the differences in community and public decision making in rural and urban Alaska. It examines how parties to an Alaska natural resource/development project can work with cross-cultural viewpoints and strive to make decisions that balance economic development, environmental impacts, and quality of life issues. Participants apply the workshop skills to

real-time projects that include both Native and non-Native stakeholders.

All workshops are conducted for two days in Anchorage and are held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at UAA, Anchorage, Alaska. If you have questions, please call Jane Oakley, Resource Solutions Training Coordinator, at 907-786-6374, or email her at anjeo@uaa.alaska.edu. Additional information and registration forms are on our website at: <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/resourcesolutions> Please fax completed registrations to 907-786-1700.

Denali Commission Solid Waste Program - FY 2007 Request for Proposals

The Denali Commission has released their RFP for 2007 Solid Waste Management Grants. Eligible applicants are rural municipal governments (cities or boroughs with populations less than 6,000), Tribal governments (IRA or traditional councils) and 501© nonprofit organizations. The individual project funding award limit is \$100,000 per applicant.

The Completed proposals must be received in the Commission's office by October 12, 2007. Hard copy submittals are required. For further information contact: Ms. Jodi Fondy at 888-480-4321 or 907-271-1414. The entire proposal can be viewed at <http://www.denali.gov>

Student Scholarships Available for Bioneers

Alaska Youth for Environmental Action (AYEA) is offering teen scholarships to attend Bioneers in Alaska. The conference will be held at the University of Alaska Anchorage on October 19-21, 2007.

AYEA's literature indicates: "Bioneers in Alaska is a movement to educate, connect and inspire people to act effectively with practical solutions and innovative social strategies for restoring the Earth's imperiled ecosystems and healing human communities." For additional information on Bioneers in Alaska the web site is at <http://www.sustainak.org/>

If you are interested in applying for a scholarship, please contact AYEA@nwf.org for additional information.

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Improve and Protect Air Quality in Alaska

EPA will hold an air quality workshop for environmental professionals working for Alaska tribes, "Improve and Protect Air Quality in Alaska", from November 6 - 8 in Anchorage, Alaska. EPA and the Institute of Tribal Environmental Professionals are jointly funding the workshop for environmental professionals working in native villages. EPA is working with state officials in the Alaska Department of Conservation (ADEC), the Alaska Inter-Tribal Council, and individual tribal professionals, to develop the curriculum for this 3 day workshop.

Participants will learn methods and tools to assist Alaskan natives to address the unique air quality problems of Alaska, including road dust, wood burning, diesel emissions and their interactions, and indoor air. Special emphasis will be placed on learning about participating in the State Implementation Plan process and building relationships with Alaska DEC.

For application and related information please see: <http://projects.pechan.com/epa/tribalWorkshops/index.cfm>

Apply on-line now through October 19, 2007.

EPA Brownfield Training Grant Announcement

The EPA has announced the availability of funds and is soliciting the applications from eligible entities and non-profit organizations to provide environmental job training projects that will facilitate the assessment, remediation, or preparation of brownfield sites. The closing date and time for receipt of applications is October 19, 2007 (1:00 p.m. ADT).

Types of training may include: Directly Educating students in environmental studies; Hazardous Waste Operations training (HAZWOPER); Environmental sampling and analyses techniques; Mapping skills; Youth training programs focused on environmental studies; Community planning and Job-support training for environmental contracting.

Basic information about this grant opportunity can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/swerosps/bf/job.htm>.

If you are interested in applying for one of these grants, please contact Sonja Benson at 907-451-2156 or Sonja.Benson@alaska.gov

35 AmeriCorps Positions Available

Want to make a difference in your community? Have ideas of great projects to benefit your community but need help getting started? The Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. (RurAL CAP) AmeriCorps Program is for you! RurAL CAP announces 35 AmeriCorps position openings throughout the state. These community service positions are designed to help rural Alaskan communities address local public health and wellness issues (BIRCH) and environmental concerns (RAVEN).

AmeriCorps positions are for rural Alaskans who want to make a difference in their own communities. Selected individuals will be trained to serve for one year in partnership with local agencies and community members. AmeriCorps members will work with community residents and program staff to determine village priorities and develop local solutions to community issues. Past projects have included: starting a youth group, organizing a recycling program, getting youth involved in community cleanup, providing cultural activities for community members like berry picking or a sewing circle.

Applications are due November 2, 2007. Download an application below, or contact your tribal or city office. Generally, only one member per community will be chosen to participate in each program.

The program year begins January 2008 and requires a one year commitment to service. AmeriCorps members receive a \$1,200 monthly living stipend, a \$4,725 Education Award upon completion of service, and health care and child care benefits based on eligibility.

For more information regarding AmeriCorps recruitment visit <http://www.ruralcap.org> or contact Alison Kulas at (907) 279-2511.

**Got E-mail?**

Make the choice to receive this newsletter electronically. Send your e-mail address

to Robb Woodman at:

woodman.robert@epa.gov

To Report Spills and Accidents

Note these emergency numbers to call in the event of hazardous material spills or accidents.

Alaska	800-478-9300	Washington	800-258-5990
Idaho	800-632-8000	National (EPA)	800-424-8802
Oregon	800-452-0311		

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Sherry Kimmons, <i>Tribal Coordinator</i>	271-6322
Tami Fordham, <i>Tribal Coordinator</i>	271-1484
Robb Woodman, <i>Tribal Liaison</i>	271-6323



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